

Board of Directors:
John F. Perl, President
Chaim Roifman, MD
FRCPC, Chair &
Scientific Director
Peter Clark
Thomas Moran
Barry Reichmann
Joseph Vital

Executive Director:
Richard B. Thompson,
CFRE

Corporate Advisory Board:
Joel Abelson
Vice President, Canada and Intercontinental Business
Talecris Biotherapeutics
Vicki Modell
Co-founder
Jeffrey Modell Foundation
Paul R. Perreault, Sr.
Vice President & General Manager of North America Commercial Operations
CSL Behring

Medical Advisory Board:
Adelle R. Atkinson
MD FRCPC, Toronto
Peter B. Dent
MD FRCPC, Hamilton
Eyal Grunebaum
MD, Toronto
Elie Haddad
MD PHD, Montreal
Thomas B. Issekutz
MD FRCPC, Halifax
Bruce Mazer
MD FRCPC, Montreal
Donald F. Stark
MD FRCPC, Vancouver

For release April 27, 2011

Provinces and major cities across Canada proclaim April 29 World Primary Immunodeficiency Day

The World Health Organization recognizes more than 150 forms of the disease Primary Immunodeficiency (PI). PI refers to the genetic condition of a person born with a broken or missing immune system. The immune system guards the body from infections. PI affects an estimated 13,000 Canadians, over 50% of whom go undiagnosed and are exposed to increased suffering, physical disability, life threatening illness and even death. The good news is that if diagnosed in time and treated, individuals with a PI can lead a normal life. Diagnosis starts with recognition of the *10 Warning Signs*.

“We are honoured to have governments across Canada recognize the impact Primary Immunodeficiency has on our population and the need for greater awareness.” said Richard Thompson, Executive Director for the Canadian Immunodeficiency Society.

The City of St John’s, by His Worship Dennis O’Keefe, Mayor, declared April 29 World Primary Immunodeficiency Day in St John’s.

The Halifax Regional Municipality, by His Worship Peter Kelly, Mayor, declared April 29 Primary Immunodeficiency Day in Halifax.

The City of Toronto, by His Worship Rob Ford, Mayor, declared April 29 Primary Immunodeficiency Day in Toronto.

The Province of Saskatchewan, by the Honourable Don McMorris, Minister of Health, declared April 29 World Primary Immunodeficiency Day in Saskatchewan.

The City of Saskatoon, by City Council, declared April 29 World Primary Immunodeficiency Day in Saskatoon.

The City of Regina, by His Worship Pat Fiacco, Mayor, declared April 29 Primary Immunodeficiency Day in Regina.

The City of Edmonton, by His Worship Stephen Mandel, Mayor, declared April 29 World Primary Immunodeficiency Day in Edmonton.

The Province of British Columbia, by the Honourable Steven L. Point, Lieutenant Governor, declared April 29 World Primary Immunodeficiency Day in British Columbia.

The Canadian Immunodeficiency Society (CI Society) is a national registered charity that provides patient support, education and research into a cure for Primary Immunodeficiency. For more information or to make a donation visit www.cisociety.com

In recognition of World Primary Immunodeficiency Day, the CI Society is hosting a *Let's Celebrate Families Contest* for children and teens 5 – 18 years of age. Primary Immunodeficiency can break families apart. The CI Society is working to hold families together. Winners will be drawn April 29.

-end-

For the 10 Warning Signs visit www.cisociety.com

Medical Advisory Board Members and patients are available for interviews, media can contact:

Richard Thompson, CFRE
Executive Director
Canadian Immunodeficiency Society (CI Society)
Telephone 416-964-3434
Email executivedirector@cisociety.com